



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

January 22, 2007

The Honorable Mike Johanns
Secretary of Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture
14th Street & Independence, Southwest
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Mr. Secretary,

This is to request that you designate Madera County in the State of California, a disaster area due to extreme low temperatures and freezing conditions that began January 12, 2007. Though additional time is needed to realize the full effect of the freezing temperatures, current estimates are reflecting more than a 90 percent loss in orange crops.

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) requested that the county agricultural commissioner submit a *California County Agricultural Commissioner Disaster Report*, which is enclosed for your review. Preliminary surveys of Merced County growers indicate agricultural damage/loss estimates exceed \$5.6 million. This damage will be devastating to affected producers, farm-related businesses and the general economy of the county. If you have any questions or need additional information, your staff may contact OES Director Henry Renteria at (916) 845-8510.

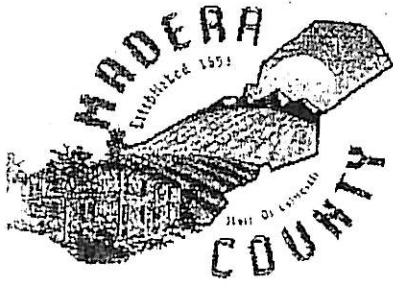
Thank you for your favorable and immediate consideration of this request on behalf of California's farmers and ranchers in dire need of USDA disaster assistance.

Sincerely,



Arnold Schwarzenegger

Enclosure



Madera County Department of Agriculture Weights and Measures

Robert J. Rolan, Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures

Jay Seslowe, Assistant Agricultural
Commissioner/Sealer

January 18, 2007

Henry R. Renteria, Director
Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Individual Assistance Section
3650 Schriever Avenue
Mather, CA 95655

Re: Request for USDA Secretarial Disaster Declaration for Freeze Related
Losses to Oranges in Madera County, California

Dear Director Renteria,

During the month of January, 2007, Madera County orange orchards incurred losses estimated at approximately \$5,667,000 due to five continuous days with minimum temperatures below 22°C.

I respectfully request that Madera County be considered for a USDA Secretarial Disaster Declaration based upon the attached *County Agricultural Commissioner Disaster Report*.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Rolan".

Robert J. Rolan
Madera County Agricultural Commissioner/
Sealer of Weights and Measures

c: Madera County Board of Supervisors
Stell Manfredi, Madera County Administrative Officer

[illegible]

13. Total Farms in County:

(Use most recent U.S. Farm Census number.)

Number

1,780

14. Farms with Production Losses of:

Number

100%

11

90 to 99%

2

80 to 89%

70 to 79%

2

60 to 69%

50 to 59%

4

40 to 49%

30 to 39%

20 to 29%

Less than 20%

2

15. Livestock and Poultry Losses of:

Number
Destroyed/Damaged3-Year Avg. Price
(From Annual Crop Report)

Dollar Loss

Cattle (Excluding milk cows)

Milk Cows

Milk Production

Sheep

Hogs

Poultry

Aquaculture

Apiary

Other

16. Farms with Physical Losses of:

Number

Major

Minor

17. Farm Facilities Damaged:

Number

Dollar Loss

Destroyed

Major

Minor

Dwellings & Service Buildings

Structures

Machinery & Equipment

Land Damages (Acres)

Other

Remarks: